



## The Florida House of Representatives

### For Immediate Release:

Thursday, December 9, 2010

### Contact:

Lyndsey Cruley, (850) 487-8148

### **Florida House Members Participate in *Waiting for "Superman"* Screening**

*Speaker pro tempore John Legg & Rep. Marty Kiar Join Members of the Florida Senate & Education Leaders for Panel Discussion on School Choice in Florida*

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – Members of the Florida House of Representatives screened the film *Waiting for "Superman,"* Tuesday at Regal Miracle 5 Cinema in Tallahassee. Immediately following the screening, Speaker pro tempore John Legg (R-Port Richey) and Representative Marty Kiar (D-Davie) joined Senator Stephen Wise (R-Jacksonville), Patricia Levesque, Executive Director for the Foundation for Florida's Future and Leon County School Superintendent Jackie Pons for a panel discussion on education reform moderated by Senator Evelyn Lynn (R-Daytona Beach).

"This week's screening of the film *Waiting for 'Superman'* led to a great panel discussion on the current state of our education system and what more needs to be done in order to close the achievement gap," said Speaker pro tempore Legg. "We have a responsibility to ensure that our state's children are receiving a world class education, that they are prepared to enter college upon graduation, and that they have the skills necessary to compete for a career in the global marketplace. Sadly that is not the current reality, and this film and panel discussion highlighted those shortfalls and kicked off a meaningful discussion among lawmakers about what areas of our education system need to be improved upon."

"The panel discussion was an intriguing opportunity to discuss the needs of our state's education system," said Representative Kiar. "I was pleased to participate in the movie screening and the conversation that it inspired. As we prepare for the 2011 legislative session, I am looking forward to working with school teachers and all stakeholders interested in enacting reforms needed to ensure the education that Florida's students deserve."

*Waiting for "Superman"* tells the story of five children as they make their way through America's failing public education system. This documentary film, by Davis Guggenheim, the Academy Award-winning director of *An Inconvenient Truth*, exposes viewers to the low expectations and dismal student achievement results that exist in America's public school system.

For more information on *Waiting for "Superman,"* please visit [www.waitingforsuperman.com/action](http://www.waitingforsuperman.com/action).

###